

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 04502 041754Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 IO-13 /069 W
-----050517Z 130479 /12

R 041650Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9755
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL BRUSSELS 04502

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, CG, NI, AO, BE
SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: VISIT OF MARC LEADER

SUMMARY: MARC LEADER KANYONGA SAYS THAT REPRESENTATIVE OF FAZ GENERAL BABIA CONTACTED HIM ABOUT POSSIBLE COUP TO TOPPLE MOBUTU. NIGERIAN EMISSARY APPROACHED MARC REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOZ. HE DESCRIBED MARC AS NOW LINING UP MODERATE EUROPEAN POLITICAL SUPPORT WITH A VIEW OF INITIATING SOON GENERAL UPRISING THROUGHOUT ZAIRE. END SUMMARY.

1. BRUSSLES-BASED ZAIRIAN OPPOSITION FIGURE KANYONGA MOBATELI, LEADER OF MARC, CAME IN TO EMBASSY MAY 4 AND TOLD US THAT HE HAD BEEN RECENTLY APPROACHED BY BELGIAN NATIONALS PURPORTING TO REPRESENT FAZ GENERAL BABIA WHO ASKED HIM IF MARC AND ITS ORGANIZATION IN ZAIRE WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT GENERAL BABIA IF HE WERE TO INITIATE A COUP TO OVERTHROW PRESIDENT MOBUTU. KANYONGA SAID HE WAS NONCOMMITAL IN HIS INITIAL RESPONSE TO THESE OVERTURES BECAUSE (A) HE DID NOT KNOW IF GENERAL BABIA AND HIS FOLLOWERS WERE CAPABLE OF PULLING OFF A SUCCESSFUL COUP, AND (B) HE FEARED THE APPROACH MIGHT BE SOME SORT OF "MANEUVER" BY MOBUTU.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 04502 041754Z

KANYONGA SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE SOON WHETHER "TO COORDINATE A COUP WITH THE GENERALS" OR TO TRIGGER MARC'S OWN UPRISING, USING MARC'S EXISTING ORGANIZATION THROUGHOUT ZAIRE, INCLUDING YOUNGER OFFICERS IN FAZ. KANYONGA SAID ACTION OF ONE SORT OF ANOTHER WOULD COMMENCE SOON IF ONLY BECAUSE ZAIRIAN SECURITY OFFICIALS WERE BEGINNING TO ARREST MARC PEOPLE IN ZAIRE. HE SAID

THAT HE HAD BEGUN AN INTENSE SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH FRENCH AND BELGIAN NON-MARXIST POLITICAL FIGURES AND STEPPED UP HIS WORK WITH THE PRESS TO PREPARE POLITICAL LEADERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO VIEW FORTHCOMING MARC OUTBREAK IN ZAIRE IN GENERALLY POSITIVE TERMS AND TO TAKE STEAM OUT OF EXPECTED MOBUTU EFFORT TO LABEL INDIGENOUS MARC UPRISE AS A "COMMUNIST INVASION".

2. KANYONGA TOLD US HE WAS CONTACTED THROUGH JEAN TSHOMBE APRIL 23 BY ALU OTUNLA (PHONETIC), A NIGERIAN DIPLOMAT AND FORMER CHARGE' IN BRUSSELS WHO WAS IN EUROPE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS GOVERNMENT TO MEET WITH LEADERS OF ZAIRIAN OPPOSITION ORGANIZATIONS. THE NIGERIAN OFFICIAL WANTED TO KNOW IF MARC WOULD BE PREPARED TO SIT DOWN AT A TABLE AND NEGOTIATE DIFFERENCES WITH MOBUTU GOVERNMENT. KANYONGA SAID HIS REPLY WAS AN UNEQUIVOCABLE "NO".

3. KANYONGA SAID COORDINATION BETWEEN OPPOSITION GROUPS WAS JUST AS BAD AS EVER, WITH INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS PURSUING NARROW SELF-INTEREST RATHER THAN DROPPING DIFFERENCES FOR THE SAKE OF OVERTHROWING MOBUTU. HE SAID A GIZANGA- SPONSORED EUROPEAN COORDINATION MEETING HELD IN BRUSSELS IN APRIL ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING, PARTIALLY BECAUSE MARC WAS NOT INVITED SINCE IT IS CONSIDERED PRO-WEST. HE SAID FLNC'S GENERAL MBUMBA HAD "FOULED-UP" THE SHABA INVASION BECAUSE HE HAD LIMITED SUCCESSIONIST GOALS RATHER THAN THE WIDER AIM OF OVERTHROWING MOBUTU. KANYONGA ASSERTED THAT ANGOLAN PRESIDENT NETO WAS DIS-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 04502 041754Z

PLEASED WITH TROUBLE SHABA INVASION WAS CAUSING HIM AND CUT OFF FLNC SUPPLIES ON THE EVE OF THE ATTACK ON KOWWEZI, ENDING FLNC ADVANCE AT THAT POINT. KANYONGA SAID GENERAL MBUMBA HAD NOW DISAPPEARED FROM HIS HEADQUARTERS AND HIS WHEREABOUTS WAS UNKNOWN. HE SAID FIGHTING IN SHABA WAS FAR FROM OVER WITH "TWO COLUMNS" OF EX-GENDARMES STILL AVAILABLE TO BE COMMITTED TO THE BATTLE. BESIDES HIS USUAL CHARACTERIZATIONS OF OTHER OPPOSITION FIGURES AND ORGANIZATIONS (E.G., LEFTIST, OPPORTUNIST, SELF-SERVING), KANYONGA MADE THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS:

-- PRP LEADER LAURENT KABILA HAD PUBLICLY BROKEN WITH GIZENGA:

-- PARIS BASED FSA LEADER CLEOPHAS KAMITATU IS ON THE MOBUTU PAYROLL CHARGED WITH SOWING CONFUSION IN OPPOSITION CIRCLES.

RENNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, INVASIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE04502
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770157-0668
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770597/aaaadfqm.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6cbb309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2649088
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA INVASION: VISIT OF MARC LEADER SUMMARY: MARC LEADER KANYONGA SAYS THAT REPRESENTATIVE OF FAZ GENERAL BABIA CONTACTED HIM ABOUT POSSIBLE COU
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, CG, NI, AO, BE, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO), (MOBATELI, KANYONGA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6cbb309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009